

2. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein the alphabet is English and the input apparatus comprises [at least 26] a key for each letter of the alphabet.

3. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim 1 [or 2] further comprising keys to generate input signals corresponding to a plurality of [each] numerals.

4. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim[s] [1 to] 3 wherein the numerals are arabic numerals and the input apparatus comprises [at least 36] a key for each number 0 to 9.

5. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim[s] 1 [to 4] further comprising a key or keys for generating signals corresponding to a function to be undertaken.

6. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim[s] [1 to] 5 wherein the function to be undertaken [is selected from the group consisting of] comprises: shift, return, control, alt, tab, caps lock, home, end, page up, page down, clear, scroll lock, up, down, left, right, backspace, delete, number lock (num lock), enter, print screen, scroll lock, pause, escape (esc), option, or [and] combinations thereof.

7. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim[s] 1 [to 6] wherein the individual key width is 7.2 to 13 mm.

8. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim[s] 1 [to 7] wherein the individual key depth is 7.2 to 15 mm.

9. (Once amended) The input apparatus of claim[s] [1 to 8] 2 wherein the individual keys are arranged in a qwerty layout.

In addition, please add the following new claims:

10. (New) The input apparatus of claim 2 further comprising keys to generate input signals corresponding to a plurality of numerals.

11. (New) The input apparatus of claim 10 wherein the numerals are arabic numerals and the input apparatus comprises a key for each number 0 to 9.

12. (New) The input apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a key or keys for generating signals corresponding to a function to be undertaken.

13. (New) The input apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a key or keys for generating signals corresponding to a function to be undertaken.

14. (New) The input apparatus of claim 12 wherein the function to be undertaken comprises: shift, return, control, alt, tab, caps lock, home, end, page up, page down, clear, scroll lock, up, down, left, right, backspace, delete, number lock (num lock), enter, print screen, scroll lock, pause, escape (esc), option, or combinations thereof.

15. (New) The input apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a key or keys for generating input signals corresponding to a symbol.

16. (New) The input apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a key or keys for generating input signals corresponding to a symbol.

17. (New) The input apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a key or keys for generating input signals corresponding to a symbol.

18. (New) The input apparatus of claim 17 wherein the symbol comprises: ` , ~ , ! , @ , # , \$, % , ^ , & , * , (,) , _ , - , + , = , \ , | ,] , } , { , [, : , ; , " , ' , , , < , > , . , ? , or / .

19. (New) The input apparatus of claim 18 wherein the alphabetic keys are arranged in a qwerty layout.

20. (New) The input apparatus of claim 1 wherein the keystroke travel range of said keys is 0.9 to 6 millimeters.

21. (New) The input apparatus of claim 20 wherein the keystroke travel range of said keys is 2 to 4 millimeters.

22. (New) The input apparatus of claim 20 wherein the the keystroke travel range of said keys is 1.2 to 3.44 millimeters.

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23. (New) An ergonomic input apparatus comprising a plurality of keys, said plurality:
generating input signals corresponding to each letter of the English alphabet;
generating input signals corresponding to each arabic numeral 0 to 9;
generating input signals corresponding to a function to be undertaken wherein said function comprises: shift, return, control, alt, tab, caps lock, home, end, page up, page down, clear, scroll lock, up, down, left, right, backspace, delete, number lock (num lock), enter, print screen, scroll lock, pause, escape (esc), option, or combinations thereof; and
generating input signals corresponding to symbols wherein said symbols comprise: ` , ~ , ! ,

@, #, \$, %, ^, &, *, (,), -, +, =, \, |,], }, {, [, :, ;, ", ' ", <, >, ., ?, or /;

wherein said plurality of keys is arranged in an array having a horizontal key spacing, centerline to centerline, between adjacent keys, of 10.8 to 16.4 millimeters, a vertical key spacing, centerline to centerline, between adjacent keys of 10.8 to 18.0 millimeters; and wherein the keystroke travel range of said keys is at least 0.9 millimeters.

24. (New) The ergonomic input apparatus of claim 22 wherein the alphabetic keys are arranged in a qwerty layout.

25. (New) The ergonomic input apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a plurality of function keys identified with the legend "F#" wherein # is an arabic numeral.

26. (New) The ergonomic input apparatus of claim 24 wherein the keystroke travel range of said keys is 0.9 to 6 millimeters.

27. (New) The ergonomic input apparatus of claim 26 wherein the keystroke travel range of said keys is 1.2 to 3.44 millimeters.

28. (New) The input apparatus of claim 2 wherein the individual keys are arranged in a "Dvorak" layout.

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action mailed August 22, 1996.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests a three month extension of time to respond to the Office